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THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
WHEELING, January 25, 1867.

Hon. D. S. PINNELL,

Speaker of the House of Delegates,

SIR: I herewith transmit you a communication this day received from His Excellency FRANCIS H. PEIRPOINT, Governor of Virginia, enclosing a joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of that State, on the 28th day of February, 1866, in regard to "the restoration of the State and the adjustment of the public debt," accompanied by an extract from the proceedings of that General Assembly, showing the appointment of commissioners under the above mentioned resolution; which you will please lay before the House of Delegates.

It may be seen by reference to page 8 of the printed copy of my annual message to the present Legislature, that this is the same resolution therein referred to. I have nothing to add to what is there said, but submit the resolution for the action of the Legislature.

Very Respectfully,

ARTHUR I. BOREMAN.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
RICHMOND, January, 20, 1867.

To His Excellency A. I. BOREMAN,

Wheeling, W. Va.;

DEAR SIR: I herewith forward to you the enclosed resolutions of the General Assembly of Virginia, appointing three commissioners, therein named, to settle liabilities between Virginia and West Virginia, in regard to the public debt of Virginia.

I am, Yours Truly,

F. H. PEIRPOINT.

P. S.—It is proposed for the commissioners to meet in Richmond on the first of February next.

F. H. PEIRPOINT.

JOINT RESOLUTION

On the restoration of the State and adjustment of the Public Debt.

ADOPTED February 28, 1866.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia, 1. That the people of Virginia deeply lament the dismemberment of the "old State," and are sincerely desirous to establish and perpetuate the reunion of the States of Virginia and West Virginia; and that they do confidently appeal to their brethern of West Virginia to concur with them in the adoption of suitable measures of co-operation in restoration of the ancient commonwealth of Virginia, with all her people, and up to her former boundaries.

2. That three commissioners, resident citizens of this State, shall be appointed by the joint vote of the two Houses of the General Assembly, to proceed forthwith to the seat of government of West Virginia, for the purpose of communicating to the Governor and General Assembly of that State a copy of the foregoing resolution, and the report of the committee accompanying the same, with authority to treat on the subject of the restoration of the State of Virginia to its ancient jurisdiction and boundaries: provided, that the result of such negotiation, if favorable to such restoration on any terms, shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the Legislatures or conventions of the respective States, as may be hereafter mutually agreed upon.

3. The commissioners appointed under the foregoing resolution, are also empowered and directed to treat with the authorities of West Virginia, upon the subjects of a proper adjustment of the public debt of the State of Virginia, due or incurred previous to the dismemberment of the State, and of a fair division of the public property; subject, however, to the approval or disapproval of this General Assembly.

4. The said commissioners are hereby authorized to treat upon either or both of the subjects mentioned in the two preceding resolutions, as circumstances may demand, with instructions to suspend or forbear any action on the subject of adjusting the debt of the State, or a division of the public property, if, in their opinion, the probable restoration of the State of Virginia to its ancient bound-

aries may render an effort at such adjustment unnecessary. The action of said commissioners to be subject to the approval or disapproval of this General Assembly.

A copy from the rolls.

Teste: J. BELL BIGGER,

Clerk House of Del. and Keeper of Rolls of Va.

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Robinson, who informed the House of Delegates that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That (the House of Delegates concurring) the Senate will, in the election of commissioners to visit West Virginia, &c., first, elect a commissioner, resident of the south side of James river; second, resident of that portion of the State east of the Blue Ridge; and thirdly, of that portion of the State west of the Blue Ridge.

Agreed to by House of Delegates, March 2, 1866.

J. BELL BIGGER,

Clerk House of Delegates.

The Speaker declared William Martin duly elected commissioner for the south side district; John Janny duly elected a commissioner for the north side of Jame river, and A. H. H. Stuart duly elected a commissioner for the west side of Blue Ridge.

I certify that the above is an extract from the Journal of the House of Delegates of Virginia, of the second day of March, 1866.

J. BELL BIGGER,

Clerk House of Delegates.

JANUARY 21, 1866.